

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ASMARA 00576 01 OF 03 111334Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 NSC-07 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCCT-02 L-03 PRS-01 DRC-01 /106 W  
----- 085678

R 111235Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA  
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
SECSTATE WASHDC 2827  
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 ASMARA 0576

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CASC, ET

SUBJECT: TENNECO FOUR

1. THE FOLLOWING LETTERS WERE BROUGHT TO THE CONSULATE ON 10 JULY BY JAMES MINER OF THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL MISSION. THE LETTER DATED 29-6-74 WAS DELIVERED TO HIM ON 9 JULY BY IBRAHIM IL MORGONY. MINER WILL SUPPLY THE NAMES OF THE MISSIONS, NUMBER OF PERSONNEL, AND LOCATION OF MISSIONS AS REQUESTED IN LETTER OF 9-7-74. HE WILL NOT USE MORGONY AS A MESSENGER.

LETTER FOLLOW:

QUOTE

(LETTER NR.1)

NO. 445

ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - DATE 29.6.74

WE RECEIVED YOUR UNDATED LETTER ON DATE 29.6.74 AT 4 P.M. BEFORE WE REPLY IN YOUR LETTER WE LIKE TO REPEAT OR WRITE YOUR QUESTIONS  
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PAGE 02 ASMARA 00576 01 OF 03 111334Z

AND POINTS ONCE MORE AGAIN.

1) ORGANIZATION OF MEDICAL TEAM (2) HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE SICK AND HOW TO REACH THEM (3) WHAT QUARANTEE OF SAFE CONDUCT CAN BE GIVEN FOR THE TEAM IN ELF SIDE (4) DOSE THE THE LETTER OF PERMISSION THAT GIVEN TO AMERICAN EVANGELICAL MISSION COVERS THE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL MISSIONS IN ERITREA? (5) THE PERMISSION LETTER WAS SIGNED ONLY BY ONE ESCECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER AND YOU ASK TO BE SIGNED BY ALL MEMBERS. (6) WOULD ELF ACCEPTS IF THE MISSION ASKED HELP FROM INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS. THESE SISC MAIN POINTS WERE WRITTEN IN YOUR LETTER. AND WE ANSWERED IT AS FOLLOWS:

(1) PLEASE ACCEPT OUR DEEP GRATITUDE BY STARTING TO PREPARE AND ORGANIZE THE MEDICAL TEAM.

(2) THERE ARE ABOUT 100,000 (HUNDRED THOUSAND). PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM CHOLERA AND ABOVE 300,000 (THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND) SUFFERS FROM MALARIA, AND THE WAS HOW TO REACH THEM IS ONLY WHEN YOU PREPARE EVERYTHING YOU SEND US LETTER AND WE WILL TELL YOU THE PLACE WHERE YOU COME BECAUSE EVERY ACTION FOR YOUR TEAM IS GOING TO TAKE FULL HELP FROM US.

(3) FULL GURANTEE IS GOING TO BE GIVEN FOR THE TEAM IN EVERY MANNER.

(4) OF COURSE IT WAS GIVEN THE PERMISSION FOR AMERICAN EVANGELICAL MISSION BECAUSE AT FIRST WE STOP THE MISSION FROM THE WORK WE DID NOT STOP THE OTHERS, BUT AS YOU WROTE FOR US IF THEY AFRAID AND WANT PERMISSION WE PERMIT FOR ALL MISSIONS TO CONTINUE THEIR MEDICAL AND RELIGIOUS WORK. IF THEY WANT A LETTER OF PERMISSION FOR EVERY MISSION WRITE FOR US THEIR NAMES OR YOU WILL TOLD US WHEN YOU COME WITH YOUR TEAM BUT TILL THAT TIME THEY COULD CONTINUE WORK.

(5) YES, IT WAS SIGNED ONLY BY ONE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER BUT FOR YOUR INFORMATION IN ELF ORGANIZATION THERE IS NOTHING DECIDED BY ONE BUT WRITTEN OR SIGNED BY ONE ONLY AFTER THEY AGREED ALL THE MEMBERS THEREFORE THAT WHY IT SIGNED BY ONE MEMBER EVEN IF YOU SEE ON THE LETTER OF RELEASE IT WAS SIGNED BY ONLY ONE MEMBER BUT THE DECISION WAS OF ALL. AND BY THIS THING, NOBODY FROM THE SIDE OF ELF IS GOING TO OPPOSE YOU IN ANY PLACE OF ERITREA AFTER HE KNOWS THAT YOU ARE MISSION WHOM THEY COME FOR THE HELP OF ERITREAN PEOPLE.

(6) THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT EEXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACCEPTS YOUR IDEA OF ASKING AID FROM INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS NOBODY HATES AIDING FOR GOOD IN ANY MANNER. AND WE ARE SO GLAD ABOUT THE AID WHIC IT COMES FROM INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND ALL MISSIONS IN ERITREA  
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PAGE 03 ASMARA 00576 01 OF 03 111334Z

N.B.

YOU SAID WE MADE A PRESS RELEASE IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR WISHES BUT WE HEARD ONLY THE RELEASES NEWS, BUT ABOUT OPOLIZATION ON THE DEATH OF THE NURSE AND CHOLERA DESEASE IN THE COUNTRY NEVER SAID IN THE NEWS.

THE TEAM WHICH IT CAME SHOULD HAVE TO PREPARE HER OWN FOOD IF IT IS NOT IT WILL FACE PROBLEM.

THE AMERICAN EVANGELICAL MISSION SHOULD HAVE TO SEND REPLY ON THIS

LETTER IN DATE 3.7.74 E.C. AT "FEGRET"  
ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
/SIGNATURE/

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PAGE 01 ASMARA 00576 02 OF 03 111420Z

43  
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 NSC-07 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCCT-02 L-03 PRS-01 DRC-01 /106 W  
----- 086182

R 111235Z JUL 74  
FM AMCONSUL ASMARA  
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
SECSTATE WASHDC 2828  
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 ASMARA 0576

(LETTER NR. 2)

O 453

ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT DATE 4/7/74  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - TO AMERICAN EVANGELICAL MISSION

WE HAVE RECEIVED YOUR UNDATED LETTER ON DATE 29.6.74 AND ON THE  
SAME DAY WE WROTE A REPLY OF THAT LETTER AND WE GAVE IT TO THE MAN

WHO PICKS MRS. DEBBIE FROM THE FIELD TO MASSAWA. IF THIS PERSON GIVES  
YOU THE LETTER WE ARE WAITING YOU FOR REPLY. WE ALSO WANTS FROM  
YOU TO BE INFORMED THAT EVERYTHING HELP WHICH YOU WANTS IT FROM US,  
IN SHORT YOU CAN REQUEST US BY EVERY HELP BY WRITE IT ON THE  
REPLY OF THIS LETTER.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
/SIGNATURE/

ERITREA LIBERATION FRONT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JULY 6, 1974

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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ASMARA 00576 02 OF 03 111420Z

I JUST RECEIVED YOUR LETTER N 453 DATED 4-7-74. I HAVE BEEN WAITING  
ANXIOUSLY FOR THE REPLY TO MY LETTER ASKING FOR PERMISSION  
FOR THE OTHER MISSIONS IN ERITREA TO WORK IN PEACE. I ALSO ASKED  
FOR YOUR FEELINGS TO HAVE THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS HELP IN  
ANY NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE. I HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY REPLY. I REPEAT -  
I (BEGIN UNDERLINE) HAVE NOT (END UNDERLINE) RECEIVED ANY REPLY.  
I SENT A MESSENGER WITH MY LETTER AND I EXPECT A REPLY WHY HE  
DID NOT RETURN AND WHY YOU GAVE YOUR ANSWER TO THE OTHER MAN.  
HE APPARENTLY HAS NO INTEREST IN YOU CAUSE OR OURS. IF HE WAS  
INTERESTED, HE WOULD HAVE DELIVERED THE LETTER TO US. I ASK  
THAT YOU USE MY MESSENGERS FOR FURTHER COMMUNICATIONS.

WE HAVE ASKED ABOUT CHOLERA AND THE REPORTS ARE THAT THERE IS  
NO CHOLERA IN THE AREA.

WE ARE STILL ASKING FOR A PERMISSION LETTER FOR OUR MISSION AND  
LETTERS FOR EACH OF THE OTHER MISSIONS WORKING IN ERITREA, WHICH  
ARE SIGNED BY ALL MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THIS WILL BE  
OUR GUARANTEE THAT OFFICIAL PERMISSION IS GRANTED FOR US TO  
WORK IN PEACE.

SINCERELY

/SIGNED/ JAMES B. MINER  
AMERICAN EVANGELICAL MISSION OF THE  
ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(LETTER NO. 4)

ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT DATE 9/7/74  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO AMERICAN EVANGILICAL MISSION

WE ARE ANXIOUS TO HEAR FROM THE MISSION THAT  
YOU DONST RECEIVED OUR LETTER WHICH WAS DELIVERED  
BY OUR MESSENGER IF IT IS TRUE HE HAVE DONE  
MANY BAD THINGS TO BOTH OF US. FINALLY WE  
RECEIVED YOUR LETTER AND IN REPLY FOR THAT WE  
PREPARE THE FOLLOWING -

1) YOU SAID THAT THERE IS NO CHOLERA DECEASE  
IN THE AREA IF YOU HAVE SUCH LIKE REPORTS DO AS  
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PAGE 03 ASMARA 00576 02 OF 03 111420Z

WHAT YOUR REPORTERS GAVE YOU. BUT WE LIKE TO  
ASK THEM (THE MISSION) ABOUT THE DEASEASE WHICH  
KILLS MORE THAN 360 PEOPLE WHAT KIND OF DISEASE  
IS THAT IN THE AREA SHEEK, KEPER, MENSA.  
ZAZRE AND ADE SHUMOS FROM JUNE 27/3/74 TILL  
JULY.

2) WE WERE SENDING OUR PREVIOUS LETTER  
WITH ANOTHER MAN WE HAVE DONE THIS BECAUSE  
IN ORDER TO REACH YOU FAST. SECONDLY  
THERE IS NOBODY WHOM HE DELIEVER MESSAGER  
BETWEEN US, AND YOU, WE KNOW THERE IS ONE  
MAN BUT THIS MAN IS DAILY PAID WORKER  
AND WHENEVER WE WANT TO SEND HIM FOR YOU  
LETTER WE GAVE HIM TIP OR WE PERSUADE HIM.  
BUT FOR YOUR INFORMATION IF YOU WANT EVERYTHING  
TO REACH YOU BY THIS WAY O.K. WE ARE GOING TO  
PERSUADE HIM MORE. CONTINUING IN THIS IT IS  
THE MISSION RESPONSIBILITY ABOUT THE MESSANGER  
IT MEANS AS YOU WISH.

3) YOU SAID THAT OUR PERMISSION LETTER IS GOING TO BE  
SIGNED BY ALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS BUT  
FOR YOUR INFORMATION WE HAVE ABOUT 19 EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALL ARE SCATTERED ALL OVER ERITREA AND TO  
SOME FOREIGN COUNTRIES LIKE MIDDLE EAST  
BUT OUR PROGRAMME IS ONE IT IS NOT SCATTERED  
LIKE WHAT THE MEMBERS SCATTERED. THEREFORE,  
EVERYTHING IS MADE OUR SIGN ACCORDING TO THE  
PROGRAMME NOT ACCORDING TO WHAT EVER THEY LIKE  
AND THE MEMBER IN THIS AREA GAVE THE COPY OF  
YOUR PERMISSION LETTER TO ALL E.L.F. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
AND FOR EVERY ADMISISTRATIVE UNIT AND  
IS HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE CARE ABOUT YOU IN  
EVERY ASPECTS. SO AMERICAN EVANGILICAL MISSION HAVE  
GOT ITS PERMISSION LETTER BUT FOR THE REST OF MISSIONS WE  
ARE READY TO GIVE THEM PERMISSION LETTERS AFTER WE  
KNOW THE FOLLOWING THINGS -

1) THEIR NAMES (2) NUMBER (3) THEIR PLACES  
THEIR NEED WHY THEY WANT THIS PERMISSION.  
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PAGE 04 ASMARA 00576 02 OF 03 111420Z

(4) WE ACCEPT THE AID WHICH THE MISSION IS GOING TO  
ASK FROM INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS, AND WE ARE VERY  
HAPPY INDEED ABOUT THIS HELP FOR OUR PEOPLE  
N.B. THEREFORE THE APOLOGIZATION ON THE DEATH OF MS ANNA

AND THIS HELP FROM RED CROSS AND ABOUT EVERY PERMISSION  
SHOULD HAVE TO BE SAID IN B.B.C. RADIO AND V.O.A.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
(SIGNATURE)

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PAGE 01 ASMARA 00576 03 OF 03 111407Z

43  
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 NSC-07 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 SCCT-02 PRS-01 DRC-01 /106 W  
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R 111235Z JUL 74  
FM AMCONSUL ASMARA  
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
SECSTATE WASHDC 2829  
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 3 ASMARA 0576

(LETTER NO. 5)

ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JULY 10, 1974

I WILL TRY TO ANSWER YOUR LETTER OF JULY9 AS FOLLOWS.  
1. WE AGREE WITH YOU THAT CHOLERA WAS PRESENT IN APRIL MAY JUNE  
AND UNTIL NOW IN SOME AREAS. BUT THE REPORT WAS THAT THERE ARE NOT  
VERY MANY PEOPLE SICK RIGHT NOW. WE CAN NOT TRUST THE REPORT  
COMPLETELY SO FOR THIS REASON I HAVE ASKED THE RED CROSS TO  
INVESTIGATE THE SITUATION FOR US SINCE OUR ONLY TWO MEDICAL WORKERS  
ARE NOW IN LANGUAGE SCHOOL IN ASMARA. THE RED CROSS WILL BE ARRIVING  
IN AFABED ON JULY 11, IF THERE IS AN AIRPLANE AVAILABLE. FROM  
THERE THEY WILL GO OUT TO YOU AND TREAT THE PEOPLE. THEY WILL BE  
CARRYING A COPY OF THE PERMISSION LETTER THAT WAS GIVEN TO OUR  
MISSION. PLEASE UNDERSTAND ALSO THAT EVEN THOUGH THE RED CROSS  
DOES CARRY OUR LETTER, WE ARE NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH THEM ON SOME OF  
THEIR BEHAVIOR IN MORALS. THE ARE NOT MISSIONAIRES.  
PLEASE SHOW THEM THE WAY AND KEEP THEM FROM HARM AND BE ASSURED

THAT IF MORE PEOPLE ARE NEEDED THEN THE MISSIONS WILL BE PROVIDING  
THE HELP.

2. I THINK IT IS STILL THE BEST WAY IF WE USE OUR MESSENGERS.  
3. WE ACCEPT YOUR WORD THAT IT IS DIFFICULT FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO SIGN THE LETTER OF PERMISSION SO WE WILL ACCEPT  
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PAGE 02 ASMARA 00576 03 OF 03 111407Z

THE LETTER THAT YOU WROTE.

THE OTHER MISSIONS NAMES ARE:

A. SOCIETY OF INTERDENOMINATIONAL MISSIONS (SIM) WHO WORK IN ASMARA,  
AFABED, DECAMERE.

B. MIDDLE EAST GENERAL MISSION WHO WORK IN ASMARA, TESSENAY,  
HAICOTO, AND SEVERAL OTHER PLACES WEST OF KEREN.

C. RED SEA MISSION TEAM WHO WORK IN ASMARA, MASSAWA, ASAD, EDD,  
THIO, BULUC BUIC IN THE DANAKIL.

D. SWEIDSH EVANGELICAL MISSION (EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF ERITREA)  
WHO WORK IN MANY PLACES IN ERITREA.

E. SWISS NILE MISSION WHO WORK IN ADI QUALA.

THEIR REASON FOR WANTING THE LETTERS IS SO THEY WILL KNOW THAT  
THEY ARE SAFE TO WORK IN PEACE.

4. WE DID GIVE A PRESS RELEASE GIVING YOUR APOLOGY FOR THE DEATH  
OF MISS ANNA ON BBC AND VOA. THE USIS WILL BE WORKING ON A PRESS  
RELEASE IN REGARDS TO THE RED CROSS HELP IN THE FUTURE. SINCE I  
WILL BE LEAVING NOW I HAVE TURNED EVERYTHING OVER TO OTHER PEOPLE  
TO CARE FOR THIS ISSUE.

/SIGNED/ JAMES B. MINER

UNQUOTE

SHERRY

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## Message Attributes

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